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Docket No. MCP 231

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Parikh, et al.
Serial No.: 09/745,243 Art Unit: 1615
Filed : 21 December 2000 Examiner: Pulliam, Amy
For : TEXTURE MASKED PARTICLES CONTAINING AN ACTIVE INGREDIENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 24 June 2003 ("Office Action") and the Notice of Appeal mailed 24 September 2003 ("Notice"), please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.